AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 - 16. Canceled.

17. (currently amended): A magnetic recording medium comprising:

a nonmagnetic ~~flexible~~ polymer support having a thickness of from 10 to 200 μm, said polymer support being a resin film containing at least one of aromatic polyimide, aromatic polyamide, aromatic polyamideimide, polyether ketone, polyether sulfone, polyether imide, polysulfone, polyphenylene sulfide, polyethylene naphthalate, polyethylene terephthalate, polycarbonate, triacetate cellulose, and a fluorine resin;

a subbing layer which contains at least one of a polyimide resin, a polyamideimide resin, a silicone resin and a fluorine resin and has, at its surface, protrusions having a height of from 5 to 60 nm;

a first under layer which is constituted by a nonmetal element, per se, a compound consisting of nonmetal elements, or a compound containing titanium and a nonmetal element;

a second under layer containing at least one element selected from the group consisting of chromium, titanium, iridium, platinum, palladium, ruthenium, rhodium, rhenium, osmium, cobalt, tungsten, vanadium, iron and molybdenum; and

a magnetic layer which contains a ferromagnetic metal alloy containing at least cobalt, platinum and chromium, and a nonmagnetic compound,

in this order.

18. (currently amended): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 17, wherein the nonmagnetic flexible polymer support has a thickness of from 10 to 100 μm.

19. (canceled).

20. (canceled).

21. (currently amended): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim ~~20~~ 17, wherein the subbing layer has, at its surface, protrusions having a height of from 10 to 30 nm.

22. (currently amended): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim ~~20~~ 17, wherein the protrusions are provided at the surface in a density of from 0.1 to 100/μm^2.

23. (currently amended): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim ~~20~~ 17, wherein the protrusions are provided at the surface in a density of from 1 to 10/μm^2.

24. (currently amended): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim ~~20~~ 17, wherein the protrusions contain spherical silica particles.

25. (previously presented): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 17, wherein the nonmetal element is selected from C, Si, B, Te, As, Se, I, N and O.

26. (previously presented): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 17, wherein the nonmetal element is C.

27. (previously presented): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 17, which further comprises a crystal growth defective layer of the second under layer at an interface between the first under layer and the second under layer, said crystal growth defective layer having a thickness of 5 nm or less.

28. (previously presented): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 17, which is used for a recording and reproducing in which the recording and the reproducing are made in a state that the magnetic recording medium contacts with a magnetic head.

29. (previously presented): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 17, wherein the ratio of the ferromagnetic metal alloy/nonmagnetic compound in the magnetic layer is from 95/5 to 80/20 (atomic ratio).

30. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 17, wherein the polymer support is a resin film containing at least one of polyethylene terephthalate and polyethylene naphthalate.

31. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 17, wherein the support has a thickness of from 10 to 63 μm.

32. (new): A magnetic recording medium comprising:

a nonmagnetic polymer support having a thickness of from 10 to 200 μm, said polymer support being a resin film containing at least one of aromatic polyimide, aromatic polyamide, aromatic polyamideimide, polyether ketone, polyether sulfone, polyether imide, polysulfone, polyphenylene sulfide, polyethylene naphthalate, polyethylene terephthalate, polycarbonate, triacetate cellulose, and a fluorine resin;

a first under layer which is constituted by a nonmetal element, per se, a compound consisting of nonmetal elements, or a compound containing titanium and a nonmetal element;

a second under layer containing at least one element selected from the group consisting of chromium, titanium, iridium, platinum, palladium, ruthenium, rhodium, rhenium, osmium, cobalt, tungsten, vanadium, iron and molybdenum; and

a magnetic layer which contains a ferromagnetic metal alloy containing at least cobalt, platinum and chromium, and a nonmagnetic compound,

in this order,

wherein the ratio of the ferromagnetic metal alloy/nonmagnetic compound in the magnetic layer is from 95/5 to 80/20 (atomic ratio).

33. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 32, wherein the nonmagnetic flexible polymer support has a thickness of from 10 to 100 μm.

34. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 32, further comprising a subbing layer between the nonmagnetic flexible polymer support and the first under layer, wherein the subbing layer contains at least one of a polyimide resin, a polyamideimide resin, a silicone resin and a fluorine resin and has, at its surface, protrusions having a height of from 5 to 60 nm.

35. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 34, wherein the subbing layer has, at its surface, protrusions having a height of from 10 to 30 nm.

36. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 34, wherein the protrusions are provided at the surface in a density of from 0.1 to 100/μm^2.

37. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 34, wherein the protrusions are provided at the surface in a density of from 1 to 10/μm^2.

38. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 34, wherein the protrusions contain spherical silica particles.

39. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 32, wherein the nonmetal element is selected from C, Si, B, Te, As, Se, I, N and O.

40. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 32, wherein the nonmetal element is C.

41. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 32, which further comprises a crystal growth defective layer of the second under layer at an interface between the first under layer and the second under layer, said crystal growth defective layer having a thickness of 5 nm or less.

42. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 32, which is used for a recording and reproducing in which the recording and the reproducing are made in a state that the magnetic recording medium contacts with a magnetic head.

43. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 32, wherein the polymer support is a resin film containing at least one of polyethylene terephthalate and polyethylene naphthalate.

44. (new): The magnetic recording medium as claimed in claim 32, wherein the support has a thickness of from 10 to 63 μm.